



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**National Highway Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

February 23, 2021

Nicole Schwieterman  
Corporate Counsel  
Cooper Tire & Rubber Co.  
701 Lima Avenue  
Findlay, OH 45840

NEF-150CL  
21T-003

**Subject:** Low Tread Gauge May Cause Tire Failure

Dear Nicole Schwieterman:

This letter serves to acknowledge Cooper Tire & Rubber Co.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**

COOPER/CS5 GRAND TOURING/225/55R17  
MASTERCRAFT/LSR GRAND TOURING/225/55R17

**Mfr's Report Date:** February 21, 2021

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 21T-003

**Components:**

TIRES  
TIRES:TREAD/BELT

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 11,957

**Problem Description:**

Cooper Tire & Rubber Co. (Cooper Tire) is recalling certain Cooper CS5 Grand Touring 225/55R17 and Mastercraft LSR Grand Touring 225/55R17 tires with DOT codes 2920 through 0121. The tires may have low tread gauge in the shoulder slot area which could cause tread separation and sidewall failure.

**Consequence:**

A sidewall failure may cause the tire to rapidly deflate, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Cooper Tire will notify registered owners, and dealers will inspect and, if necessary, replace the tires, free of charge. Cooper Tire plans to begin notification no later than April 22, 2021. Owners may contact Cooper Tire customer service at 1-800-854-6288. Cooper Tire's number for this recall is 177-2. Note: This recall supersedes 20T-017 and any tires recalled under 20T-017, but not yet replaced, are now included in this safety recall.

**Notes:**

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to [www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov).

We have received Cooper Tire & Rubber Co. proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Choon Lee who may be reached by phone at 202 366 0388, or by email at [choon.lee@dot.gov](mailto:choon.lee@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Alex Ansley  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigations  
Enforcement